

A ADDENDUM TO OUR "Special Offers for the Fall, 1963" which we mailed to our customers early in August. We have been swamped since with orders and have sold out of the following which were offered in that list.

SOLD OUT.....All of the,
BLC Green Giant, The Prolific flowering White Cattleyas, The LC Doris.
Dendrobium Johnsonii, Dendrobium F.W. Gamble, all of the Dendrobium
Kekies and all of our new Seedling cross #1046.

A note regarding our New Hybrid Odontoglossum California.
This is our cross #922. The Parentage is Odontoglossum Olinda, which is a cool growing Crispum Hybrid (Pollin Parent) crossed onto Odont. Johnsonorum, as it was labeled when we obtained the plant from the Collector in Mexico BUT when we registered this cross with the Registrar of Orchid Hybrids of The Royal Horticultural Society in England they informed us that the name of this plant should be Odont. Jonesianum. Anyway this specie grows in a hot part of Mexico and will withstand much warmer temperatures than the crispum hybrids. Its offspring, our Odont. California grows and flowers well under the same conditions as our Cattleyas.

Regarding Oncidiums...

Several of our Customers have requested our list of available varieties and we intended to make up such a list but upon checking our stock we find too few to list. There is a new Oncidium Hybrid seedling cross offered in our regular listing of seedlings and others will be offered from time to time.

A number of years ago we used colchicine treatment on some outstanding Oncidium hybrids and succeeded in obtaining flowers four inches and over in diameter and from a cross of two of the best of these we obtained a seed pod. From the seed in this pod we succeeded in raising only six plants, none of which are for sale. The largest of these six plants is now in bud and we will know soon just how successful we have been in developing a strain with flowers as large as large vandas or Cymbidiums. This new strain has been named Miltonidium GOLDEN GIANT. We hope to have enough of these some day to offer them to our customers. After seeing the flowers on our Golden Giant we have lost interest in most other Oncidiums. Line breeding of this will carry the same name.

WINTER IS COMING.

Within a few weeks it will be too cold to safely ship orchid plants to the northern half of this country and by the first part of November it will be risky to ship to most of the Southern states such as Florida and Texas because most shipments by Parcel Post and by Express are routed by way of Chicago, where it can get COLD in November. The Post Office Dept. does not insure plants and they do not give plant shipment any special protection against cold. And we have had the Railway Express call it "an act of God" when plant shipments are frozen enroute, so they refuse to make good on them. We have letters to this effect in our file. NOW is the time to obtain those wanted varieties while they are still available and while they can be safely shipped.

Our Mailing List.

Sometimes people write and ask why they no longer receive our lists and cultural notes. Usually the reason their names have been dropped is because they have not made any purchase from us for two years or longer and we just surmise that they have quit growing orchids or that they have no room for more. And because it takes time and costs money to print and mail these lists and notes, we have to keep our mailing lists at a reasonable size.

F.W. Gamble-Orchid Specialist.

Additional Special Offers for the Fall months of 1963

Our Cross #851 has been named C. Rainbow Valley
Cross #852 has been named L.C. Peter Collins
Cross # 853 has been named C. Desert Sunset

Everyone who has seen these bi-foliate hybrids in flower or pictures of them has wanted some. There are not many still available. This will probably be the last offer of them. Cymbidium size flowers with the substance of a Cymbidium in most of the Cymbidium colors such as orange, green, yellow, chartruse, lemon, peach, apricot and even in colors not seen in Cymbidiums. A few come in Lavender and Plum shades. Never before such an array of color in Cattleyas. Many people find these hard to believe, even while they are looking at them in flower.

A very limited number of number one size plants are available at \$5.00 each. Many flower without a sheath. One each of the above three new Rainbow colored Hybrid Cattleyas for \$15.00 plus a flowering size plant of one of our Experimental (Exploratory) crosses not on our listing, Given free if you request it with this order.

Smaller size plants of the above new hybrids at \$3.50 each. Special offer of one plant each of the three varieties for \$10.00. This size should flower within two years. Try this new Adventure TRIO.

EXPLORERS SPECIAL offer. If you like the thrill of seeing experimental crosses flower the first time, always with the possibility that you may find you have the best one of the cross. Our most outstanding new colors and types in new orchid hybrids were developed by Experimental crosses.

#909. L.C. Topaz x LC. Daniel Markell.. for orange and yellow flowers in many sizes and shapes.

#926-28. C. Artic Snow x Our Famous GREEN LC Elstead Gem. In Many colors

#854. BLC Cloud Nine. Many colors and types.

#919. C. Maya x C. Edelstein. This last cross was made in Rio, Brazil. This is a South American Lass. The only one to flower so far was white with golden eyes in the throat, plum-red lip with wide white border.

Explorers Special Offer. One plant of EACH of the above Four varieties in 2½ & 3 inch pots, some should flower within a year, for \$10.00.

If you can grow mature orchid plants you should be able to handle this size plant.

FALL SHOW*TIME SPECIAL OFFER.

During September and October we will send you three Cattleya Hybrids with buds started within the sheaths for \$15.00. Six Plants, each different, for \$25.00. Our choice of Varieties but you may state your preferences. With proper care these should flower within two to three weeks after you get them.

BLUES CHASHERS Special.

To have orchid plants in flower during those long dark days during the winter and early spring let us select plants which have already made up strong new growths with flower sheaths and which with proper care will flower during the winter and early spring before the weather is warm enough to allow us to send you plants. Order these now at the same price as the above offer and have orchids in flower this winter.

If you have a cultural problem, shoot the questions at me. I will either send you a personal reply or include the question and answer in future cultural notes.

Franklin W. Gamble. 62 Shell Road. Mill Valley. Calif. Zip code 94943

SEP 3 1963 ★

U. S. Department of Agriculture

Cultural notes for September 1963

from F.W. Gamble

Some Factors which effect the Flowering of Cattleya Orchids.

Day Lenght.

The number of hours of light each day control the flowering peroid of most varieties of Cattleyas. Summer flowering types require long days to Flower. Fall flowering varieties start the development of thier flower buds when the days start becoming shorter. Winter flowering plants flower during the short day peroid of the year and the spring flowering varieties require a rest peroid of short days and start development of thier flowers when the days start becoming longer. There is also the unusual type which is not effected by daylenght but flowers whenever a new growth is completed under good growing conditions of enough light, proper temperatures etc. etc.

Light intensity is important also. Too strong a light source, especially sunlight thru clear glass, will burn leaves, bulbs and flowers on Cattleyas. Not enough light will slow up and sometimes prevent the development of new growth and/or flowers. Too little light is the major cause of weak spindly growth. For the best strong, straight growths, the light should come from overhead, not thru side windows entirely.

The use of electric lights about your plants after the sun has set can and may prevent the flowering of some of your plants and upset the proper flowering season on others. If you are growing your orchids under florescent or other artificial lights BE SURE to vary the light-hours according to season or you will find that most of your Cattleya plants will never flower.

Temperature.

Temperatures below 55 degrees will slow up or stop the development of new growths and/or buds and flowers on most Cattleyas. Low Temperatures are used by many commercial orchid growers to control the flowering peroid of many types of orchids. Bud Development of Cattleya Mossiae and many of its hybrids can be started by dropping the temperature at night to 40 or 45 degrees for a few nights after which the night temperature is raised to 55 degrees or 60 degrees is it is desireable to speed up the development of the flowers. High night temperatures of over 60 degrees, especially during the winter months, or during dark cloudy weather will cause weak spindly growth, simular to that caused by overfeeding and these weak growths seldom flower.

Rest Peroids of Plants.

All varieties of Wild Orchids have thier rest peroids, during which time no new growth occurs even tho some varieties will flower during this rest peroid. Under greenhouse culture, IF YOU WANT THE BEST QUALITY FLOWERS that will keep for a longer peroid, you should rest your plants. This is done AFTER the new growth is completed by cutting down or even stopping all watering in the pot and by keeping the temperatures as cool as possible, especially at night. All of your plants should make up thier new growths during the spring and summer months and be allowed to rest during the late fall and winter, making up no growths during that time, altho those which flower during that peroid will do so. You will not get as many growths by this method as you will if you keep them growing all year round and you will not have to repot so often BUT you will obtain more flowers per growth and the flowers will be larger and of much better quality, which means of course they will keep longer. Beginers in orchid culture should not expect the same results as experienced commercial growers with automatically controlled greenhouses expect and get. Even at best a house or home is a poor substitute for a modern greenhouse and a small greenhouse is much harder to cool, heat and ventilate properly than a large greenhouse. And of course most hobbists do not have the time to properly watch growing conditions as do commercial growers. Many times I have been amazed by the results obtained under conditions most commercial growers would consider impossible.

